

Application Serial No.: 10/789,968

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Second Preliminary Amendment dated: June 21, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The present application is a continuation of ~~co-pending~~ allowed U.S. Patent Application No. 10/413,661, filed April 15, 2003, incorporated herein by reference; which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/313,458, filed May 17, 1999, issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,576,743 on June 10, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/199,586, filed November 25, 1998, now abandoned, which claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119 (e) of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/066,597, filed November 26, 1997.--